

Pleasant Hill Library Task Force Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: **July 25, 2016**

Large Community Room, Pleasant Hill City Hall, 100 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Attendees:

- Michael Harris, Pleasant Hill City Council
- Sue Noack, Pleasant Hill City Council
- Sandra Bonato, Rec & Park Boardmember
- Terry Speiker, Interim County Librarian
- Jack Prosek, Pleasant Hill Library Fund
- Patrick Remer, PH Library
- Katherine Bracken, PH Library Commissioner
- Wendy Gollop, resident
- Kim Brandt, Resident
- June Catalano, City Manager
- Steve Van Dorn, PH Chamber of Commerce
- Susan Weaver, Friends of the Library
- Terry Gerbracht, PH Resident
- David Mc Donald, Friends of the Library
- Norman Vanhole, resident
- Andrew Murray, Assistant City Manager
- Martin Nelis, City staff
- Danielle Habr, City staff

Public Comment

Terry Gerbracht spoke briefly about a July 22nd article in the SF Chronicle which talked about the City of Millbrae's Community Center built in the 1960's.

Discussion regarding the proposed Sales Tax Ballot Measure agenda item for August 1, 2016 City Council Meeting

Staff liaison Nelis reported that staff was preparing a proposed sales tax measure ordinance for deliberation by the City Council at the August 1, 2016 meeting. The ordinance would propose a half-cent (or one half of one percent) Transactions & Use Tax (Sales Tax) in Pleasant Hill over 20 years, and would generate an estimated \$4 million in additional annual revenue for the City. If enacted, the measure would fund the following projects and services:

- Repaving neighborhood streets and fixing potholes
- Maintaining and upgrading the City's storm drains
- Adding new sidewalks and bike paths
- Constructing a new community library; and
- Funding other city projects and services that Pleasant Hill residents have identified as key priorities.

In response to a question from Wendy Gollop, Mayor Noack explained that if the measure was successful, the City could issue revenue bonds based on anticipated revenue to fund the construction of the library.

In response to a question from Norm Vanhole, Nelis replied that the proposed measure included a requirement for a Citizens Oversight Committee to be appointed by the City Council. Mayor Noack also commented that the sales tax measure was the preferred revenue option in comparison to a bond measure as it would generate more revenue and could be used for a number of priority issues including funding City infrastructure as well as the library construction.

Update from PH Recreation & Park District regarding proposed purchase of surplus Oak Park County owned property

Rec and Park Boardmember, Sandra Bonato, reported on the status of negotiations between the District and the County on the possible purchase of County owned surplus property on Oak Park Blvd. By State law, when public property becomes surplus, the owner is obligated to offer the land for sale first to other public agencies. She stated that the District had filed a lawsuit against the County related to a lack of real negotiations. The County filed a challenge to the lawsuit. However, the court rejected their petition and ruled that the suit could proceed. The end result of this action is that negotiations have now been reopened between the two parties. She further stated that if the District did purchase the 10-acre site, it would dedicate 2.5 acres for the library.

Reports from Sub-committees

Patrick Remer reported that he was working with Larry Hunt on the production of videos to showcase how the library is used currently. Mayor Noack reported that the Funding subcommittee would meet in the future once some decisions had been made on the sales tax measure.

Future meeting date

The Task Force agreed to meet again at 11:00 a.m. on August 22, 2016.